

Portland Harbor Superfund Site Revision Process for Feasibility Study

April 9, 2014

EPA and LWG Senior Managers and Project Managers have developed and agreed upon the attached FS Revision Process Matrix and Schedule ("Matrix") for development of the final FS, as shown in the attached diagram and described below and consistent with the AOC. This document explains when EPA modifications, comments, and direction for changes to the LWG will occur per the Matrix and when the RI/FS AOC dispute process may be invoked.

1. Technical Discussion Process

While the parties will work together to finalize each section of the FS, EPA will modify, rather than merely comment on, the LWG draft FS after significant technical discussions with the LWG as set forth in the Matrix. This process acknowledges that the parties will seek agreement on each section of the FS, however, it also provides for dispute resolution if that does not occur.

At the beginning of work on each section, both parties will meet and discuss technical issues identified by either party, seeking consensus. Representatives of any AOC party may attend any of the meetings. EPA will consider LWG positions and decide how to move forward with FS revisions. Any technical discussions or decisions are non-binding on either party, and any materials provided to the LWG in connection with these discussions do not constitute EPA comments, modifications or directions for change that must be addressed by the LWG under Section IX of the AOC. During the technical discussions, EPA may ask the LWG to perform revision work, technical or editorial, on a particular FS section. If the LWG does not agree with the requested work or position, it may decline to perform the revision work, and then EPA will perform the work. The refusal to perform this work by the LWG is not subject to penalty under the AOC as EPA will be requesting and not directing the LWG to perform this work. Available additional data, including data collected under early action AOCs may be considered in these discussions.

Once all technical issues for a section have been discussed, EPA will draft the main text for the section and provide the text to the LWG for review. The LWG technical team will have thirty (30) days to review, identify and resolve any issues with the text EPA has drafted on Chapters 1 through 3. The LWG technical team will have forty-five (45) days to review Chapter 4 and the entire document together. Additional time may be warranted to resolve issues and EPA may extend the 30 day or 45 day period on a case-by-case basis. Any discussions or decisions are non-binding on either party.

2. AOC Dispute Resolution Process

At the conclusion of the technical discussion process for each section, EPA will send a formal letter with its final text modifications, and additional work for revision to supporting tables, maps, and figures for the section and direct the LWG to incorporate the text and perform the requested revision work. Per the AOC, the LWG shall proceed on the direction, unless within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the EPA letter, the LWG invokes dispute resolution by identifying their objections as set forth in the AOC. In accordance with the AOC, the LWG must dispute issues contained in each section or directions given on each section within 14 days of receipt of the EPA letter for each section or waive its right to dispute those issues, subject to the following exception: To the extent that the LWG's agreement concerning an issue may depend upon the content of a later section, the LWG may notify EPA in writing that it is

deferring dispute on that issue pending its review of the later section ("Parked Issues") It is the expectation of all parties that issues will be raised and resolved at the earliest point in the process and that Parked Issues will be reserved for a small number of significant issues.

EPA Senior Managers and Project Managers will meet with the LWG Senior Managers and Project Managers and are committed to this effort to informally resolve disputes raised by the LWG in accordance with the AOC. If an agreement is not reached within 14 days as provided in Section XVIII of the AOC as may be extended by agreement of EPA, the LWG may request a determination by EPA's Environmental Cleanup Office (ECL) Director in accordance with the AOC.

EPA and LWG further agree that the LWG may not seek formal dispute resolution of any issue previously resolved by agreement or dispute resolution on a prior individual section, but may initiate dispute resolution to implement a prior agreement or dispute decision, or on a subsequent FS section regarding a Parked Issue(s).

EPA and the LWG acknowledge that each AOC signatory can raise dispute issues upon receipt of EPA modifications and direction for change in accordance with Section XVIII of the AOC.

Both EPA and LWG reserve the right to withdraw from the technical discussion process only set forth in the Matrix, if the number and/or magnitude of disputed matters is so significant that it is apparent EPA and the LWG will not complete the FS revision process within a reasonable timeframe. Prior to withdrawing from the technical discussion process, the party seeking to withdraw must provide the other with written notice and there must be at least one Senior Manager and Project Manager meeting to discuss the basis for ending such process. In the event the technical discussion process is ended, EPA reserves all of its rights and authorities under the AOC to have the FS revised in whole or in part by the LWG, and the LWG reserves all of its rights to initiate dispute resolution under §XVIII.1 of the AOC within 14 days of receipt of EPA written comments, modifications and directions for changes.